

through discussion of matters of common concern to all member states and serves, to a great extent, as the legislative arm of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation;

Whereas the focus of the forum lies in resolving political, economic, environmental security, law and order, human rights, education, and cultural issues;

Whereas the forum will hold its tenth annual meeting on January 6 through 9, 2002, which will be the first meeting of the forum hosted by the United States;

Whereas approximately 27 parliamentarians from 27 countries in the Asia Pacific region will attend this meeting;

Whereas the Secretariat of the meeting will be the Center for Cultural and Technical Exchange Between East and West in Honolulu, Hawaii;

Whereas the East-West Center is an internationally recognized education and research organization established by the United States Congress in 1960 largely through the efforts of the Eisenhower administration and the Congress;

Whereas it is the mission of the East-West Center to strengthen understanding and relations between the United States and the countries of the Asia Pacific region and to help promote the establishment of a stable, peaceful and prosperous Asia Pacific community in which the United States is a natural, valued and leading partner; and

Whereas it is the agenda of this meeting to advance democracy, peace, and prosperity in the Asia Pacific region:

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives Concurring)*, That the Congress—

(1) expresses support for the tenth annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum and for the ideals and concerns of this body;

(2) commends the East-West Center for hosting the meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum and the representatives of the 27 member countries; and

(3) calls upon all parties to support the endeavors of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum and to work toward achieving the goals of the meeting.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator INOUE and myself, I rise to submit a Senate Concurrent Resolution concerning the forthcoming tenth annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum, APPF, that will take place in Honolulu in January 2002.

The Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum consists of 27 countries of which the United States is one of the original founders. Our former colleague, Senator Bill Roth, was one of the leaders of this organization which was created as a parliamentary counterpart to the heads of state meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, organization.

The first meeting was held in Singapore in 1991, and, earlier this year, Chile sponsored the ninth annual meeting. Next year, for the first time, the annual meeting will be hosted by the United States in Hawaii. The Center for Cultural and Technical Exchange Between East and West, better known as the East West Center, will provide the Secretariat for the meeting which is expected to attract approximately 27 parliamentarians from countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

Participating countries include Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Russia,

Mexico, South Korea, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Mongolia, the Philippines, and New Zealand. Discussions and debates are frank and open. The meetings provide an opportunity for legislators in these countries to hear and exchange views on a diversity of topics including human rights, security, law, the economy, and the environment.

I invite my colleagues to attend next year's early January meeting in Hawaii. It is an occasion to meet with leaders on both sides of the Pacific for frank discussions and to experience as well the spirit of Aloha.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 850. Mr. NICKLES proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

SA 851. Mr. CRAIG proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 852. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 853. Mr. THOMPSON proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 854. Mr. KYL (for himself and Mr. NICKLES) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 855. Mr. CARPER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 856. Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. BREAUX) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, supra.

SA 857. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1052, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 858. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 976, to provide authorization and funding for the enhancement of ecosystems, water supply, and water quality of the State of California; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SA 859. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 976, supra; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SA 860. Mr. REID (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. GREGG)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 850. Mr. NICKLES proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage; as follows:

On page 131, after line 20, insert the following:

TITLE III—APPLICATION OF PATIENT PROTECTION STANDARDS TO FEDERAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS

SEC. 301. APPLICATION OF PATIENT PROTECTION STANDARDS TO FEDERAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS.

(a) APPLICATION OF STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal health care program shall comply with the patient pro-

tection requirements under title I, and such requirements shall be deemed to be incorporated into this section.

(2) CAUSE OF ACTION RELATING TO PROVISION OF HEALTH BENEFITS.—Any individual who receives a health care item or service under a Federal health care program shall have a cause of action against the Federal Government under sections 502(n) and 514(d) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the provisions of such sections shall be deemed to be incorporated into this section.

(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) each Federal health care program shall be deemed to be a group health plan;

(B) the Federal Government shall be deemed to be the plan sponsor of each Federal health care program; and

(C) each individual eligible for benefits under a Federal health care program shall be deemed to be a participant, beneficiary, or enrollee under that program.

(b) FEDERAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Federal health care program" has the meaning given that term under section 1128B(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b) except that, for purposes of this section, such term includes the Federal employees health benefits program established under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

SA 851. Mr. CRAIG proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage, as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING FULL AVAILABILITY OF MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds:

(1) Medical savings accounts eliminate bureaucracy and put patients in control of their health care decisions.

(2) Medical savings accounts extend coverage to the uninsured. According to the Treasury Department, one-third of MSA purchasers previously had no health care coverage.

(3) The medical savings account demonstration program has been hampered with restrictions that put medical savings accounts out of reach for millions of Americans.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that a patients' bill of rights should remove the restrictions on the private-sector medical savings account demonstration program to make medical savings accounts available to more Americans.

SA 852. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1052, to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage; as follows:

On page 154, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

“(11) LIMITATION ON AWARD OF ATTORNEYS’ FEES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), with respect to a participant or beneficiary (or the estate of such participant or beneficiary) who brings a cause of action under this subsection and prevails in that action, the amount of attorneys’ contingency fees that a court may award to such participant, beneficiary, or estate under subsection